

REMARKS

The applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the application and requests reexamination and reconsideration of the application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 7-13, 17-20 and 24-29 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,090,458 to *Murakami* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,174,826 to *Mannava et al.* The Examiner states that *Murakami* fails to specifically teach that the gas exhaust module is inside the chamber and at least a second fluid or vapor to the substrate surface and that such features are taught by *Mannava*.

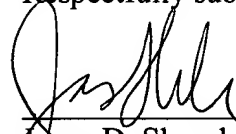
However, *Mannava* also fails to disclose a gas exhaust module inside the reaction chamber to remove reaction by-products and unreacted reactant gas from the substrate surface as claimed by the applicant. *Mannava* discloses a reaction chamber 22 having a wall 30, a window 32 at one end of the reaction chamber 22, and a conical reaction extraction nozzle 44 at the other end of the reaction chamber 22. See Fig. 2 and Col. 22, line 66 through Col. 3, line 24 of *Mannava*. *Mannava* also includes a vacuum line 48 which pumps from a location within or adjacent the nozzle 44. *Mannava* clearly shows that the vacuum line is not inside the reaction chamber 22, but within or adjacent the nozzle 44. This is in contrast to the applicant's claimed invention which includes a gas exhaust module inside the reaction chamber.

Accordingly, as *Mannava* fails to disclose the gas exhaust module inside the reaction chamber as claimed by the applicant, the combination of *Mannava* and *Murakami* fails to include each and every feature of the applicant's claimed invention. Therefore, the applicant submits that the claims of the subject application are patentable over the combination of references.

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been addressed or traversed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts, (781)890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Shanske', is written over a horizontal line.

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